Intelligence Community Is Praised

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Sen. William Proxmire (D-Wis.) said yesterday a technological revolution has given the FBI and the U.S. intelligence community a "vast increase in capability."

The U.S. intelligence and law enforcement systems "may now be the best in the world," Proxmire said in one of his series of speeches on "what's right with the federal government."

But he cautioned that safeguards are needed to forestall "the threat that such power could be used for immoral or illegal purposes."

He called for congressional insistence on court orders for all types of surveillance.

The Central Intelligence Agency should be barred from covert deliberate interference in the affairs of a foreign nation, Proxmire said.

He said this has occurred frequently in the past 15 years in Laos, Vietnam, Tibet, Singapore, Thailand, Cuba, Chile "and many other countries."

Proximre praised the computerized data banks of the FBI's crime informtion center as a potentially "extremely valuable source of data for state and local police." However, he said guarantees are needed that personal privacy will not be violated.